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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of eliciting a cytotoxic immune response as a result of injecting antigen encoding expression constructs. Minimalistic expression constructs are used that comprise a promoter, a coding sequence and a terminator, and hairpin-shaped oligonucleotides on their ends, to the loop of which cationic peptides are covalently attached. These peptide-coupled expression constructs lead to a cell mediated response type after intradermal injection. The use of a DNA expression construct operable in eucaryotic cells for making a vaccine for intradermal injection to elicit a type 1 cell mediated immune response is described.